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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR. 20 November 1950

SUBJECT 1. Propaganda in Canton Regarding the Atom Bomb
2. Anxiety in Canton About Possible UN Attack
on South China

NO. OF PAGES 1

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THE FOLLOWING REPORT WAS PREVIOUSLY

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1. In early November 1950, the Communist press in Canton carried an article written by a Chinese student present at the Hiroshima bombing in 1945, claiming that the bomb was overrated and that the effects can be neutralized in several ways.*
2. A few officials do not believe that the United States will use the atom bomb in China, on the grounds that the industrial targets do not warrant it. Propaganda belittling the bomb has been spread in order to dispell fear among people who might object to war with the United States because of terror of the atom bomb.
3. Communist officials in Canton are very nervous since China has intervened in the Korean war. The impression current in Canton is that the United States, the United Nations and CHIANG Kai-shek will attempt a South China landing. Departure of the 4 Field Army for the North increases the anxiety that the local military is too weak to fend off an attack.**
4. The Communists are busy digging trenches and constructing defense positions around the Swatow and Bias Bay areas.

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Comment. The Hong Kong Ta Kung Pao carried a similar article, "My Eyewitness Account of the Atom Bomb Dropped Over Hiroshima" by TIEN Ming-che.

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Comment. In the event of a world war, the Communists apparently have written off South China, as indicated by withdrawal of the 4 Field Army and the movement of large stocks of raw materials and machinery to the North.

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Auth:	HR 70-2
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